

**Abstract**

A method, computer program and system for joining two tables,  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are described. Each table contains rows and columns and is divided into one or more partitions. A correlation function is calculated between a first correlated value column of table  $t_1$  and a second correlated value column of table  $t_2$ . Following a query request, a joining algorithm is used to join  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ , using a reduced set of partitions based in part upon the correlation function.

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